

BIG GUNS SPRAY XMAS GREETINGS

Outpour of Shot and Shell
Keeps Up Along the
West Front.

GERMANS DESTROY BRITISH MINES

Attack Violently with Artillery
in the Vosges, but French
Hold Positions.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)
London, Dec. 25.—Explosions of mines and counter mines and the boom of big guns were the greetings that rang out between the huge armies along the west front on Christmas Day.

In the Belgian area of Lombardys, in Artois, to the south of Angres and in the region of Arras; in Champagne and in the Vosges, the artillery duel was kept up throughout the day. On the slopes to the north of Hartmannsweilerkopf, where the engagement was intense, the German guns failed to shake the French positions.

West of La Bassée, near the Belgian border on the French front, German countermining destroyed hostile works, Army Headquarters at Berlin reported. Presumably, these works were British.

FRENCH OFFICIAL

This communication was issued by the French War Office during the course of the day.

In Belgium the artillery continued to display marked activity on both sides in the region of Lombardys.

In Artois our batteries successfully bombarded German works to the south of Angres and in the region of Arras.

In Champagne we dispersed an enemy convoy on the road from Tachereau to Sommeville.

In the Vosges there was an artillery duel of a rather intense character. The enemy bombarded with effect our positions on the Hirschen front and on the slopes to the north of Hartmannsweilerkopf.

GERMAN OFFICIAL

This statement was given out by Army Headquarters at Berlin:

West of La Bassée enemy mines that had been pushed forward toward our position were successfully blown up by our troops. Otherwise, nothing important occurred.

BELGIAN OFFICIAL

The Belgian official communication reads:

Calm prevailed last night and this morning. The enemy this afternoon showed some activity before the central part of our front. Their batteries were immediately silenced by our artillery, which afterward destructively shelled the German works at Vicoigne and an important enemy work to the north of Dixmude.

The British official report simply records "normal artillery action along the front."

RUSS SABRES ROUT MOUNTED PERSIANS

Kill 118 in Battle with Band of
1,000 Near Teheran.

Petrograd, Dec. 25.—This official communication from general headquarters was issued to-day:

"Western (Russian) Front.—About four miles northeast of Buzan we repulsed enemy attempts against our advanced trenches. In the region of Naranc we took an enemy post by surprise, capturing twenty-one prisoners."

"Caucasus Front.—Southwest of Khops, on the Black Sea, one of our motor boats captured a Turkish sailing boat loaded with grain."

"Authentic information having been received of the arrival at Babatzerin, twenty-five miles southwest of Teheran, of a band of a thousand horsemen under Emir Khilachmet, we sent a detachment of troops there Tuesday night under Colonel Belomestoff. On Wednesday Colonel Belomestoff encountered the enemy, consisting of two battalions of gendarmes, five hundred of Chief Emir's horsemen and two hundred Zafiri arias. The enemy was thoroughly beaten and dispersed, losing in men, sabred alone, 118, including two officers."

Express Kills This Santa

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)

Age Harbor, N. J., Dec. 25.—Angelo Dayo, thirty-five, of Pomona, was killed within 100 feet of his sister's home this afternoon when he was struck by a Pennsylvania express as he was returning with clogs for the Christmas celebration. His sister, Mrs. J. Nick-fall, is in a serious condition from shock.

CALL PREACHER TRAITOR

Cologne Officials Say Woman Told Ad-
ventists Not to Fight.

Cologne, Dec. 25.—Elly Reuss, a local woman missionary, head of a small section of Seventh Day Adventists, who preached the practical application of the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," even under war conditions, is on trial here before a court martial charged with treason and with having incited members of the army to defy discipline.

The alleged offence consisted of commendation of the desertion of Adventists who were soldiers and a declaration that the 16,000 other Adventist soldiers would have acted commendably if they had refused to fire against the foe.

The prosecution demanded an exemplary sentence.

TURK GUNS SILENCE BATTERIES OF ALLIES

Moslems Halt Trench Work of
Entente Forces in Gallipoli.

Constantinople, Dec. 25.—Effective work by the Turkish artillery against the Allied batteries and trenches on the Gallipoli Peninsula and in interfering with the Allied communications by water is reported in to-day's official statement issued by the War Office.

"On the Dardanelles front," the report says, "our artillery silenced three enemy batteries and operated successfully against trenchment diggers, also destroying a part of the enemy's trenches. Some of our batteries in the straits successfully bombarded yesterday the landing stages at Telika Burnu, thus preventing the landing of troops. They also destroyed seven sheds and sank two laden ships."

"The number of guns captured from the enemy near Anafarta and Ari Burnu totaled eight heavy guns and two field pieces. The wireless station also fell into our hands. On December 21 we took everything useful from a large number of boats which had stranded on the coast and then destroyed the boats. Elsewhere there is nothing new."

The repeated press dispatches from

LANSING AWAITS YASAKA REPORT

Ancona Case May Be De-
layed to Cover Jap
Liner.

NOTE SUBTUFUGE SEEN IN BERLIN

Wilson Stand "Theoretical,"
Says Press—Comments
Friedlander Tone.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Dec. 25.—Lack of official advice as to the circumstances of the sinking of the Yassaka Maru left the State Department still uncertain to-day what course would be pursued toward Austria concerning the affair.

At the same time the feeling grew that Austria is likely to make some concessions, including pledges against future violation of international law in her submarine warfare.

The State Department was closed to-day, along with all other government bureaus in Washington, but Secretary Lansing announced in the evening that he had received no dispatches of importance from any of the government agents abroad. The consular and diplomatic representatives have all been instructed to obtain the facts as to the attack on the Japanese liner Yassaka, and it is not believed that it will be long before this government can renew its representations to Austria.

The repeated press dispatches from

Vienna insisting on the friendly spirit in which the latest American note has been received, and the assurances in them that Austria will comply with the "same concern for good relations" that characterized the American note, have increased the belief here that some way of avoiding a rupture will be found. It is believed that this country's determination not to recede from its position has been made so plain that Austria must know that her only chance of escaping a break is to accept the American demands in full. Since she has chosen to precede her response with such friendly unofficial announcements, it is felt that she must have decided to meet America's wishes.

Berlin Sees Subtufuge in Second Ancona Note

Berlin, Dec. 25 (by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.).—The "Vienna Zeit" announces that Baron Burian has already begun work upon the answer to the second American note on the Ancona, and that the Austrian reply will be handed during the next few days to the American Ambassador at Vienna.

The Berlin papers to-day publish prominently the full text of the American note on the Ancona. Only the "Tageblatt" and "Boersen Zeitung" comment at any length. The "Tageblatt" says the note differs from the first, to its advantage, by the objective tone which preserves the forms customary in communications between nations.

"The question at issue," says the "Tageblatt," "is not brought a step nearer solution, the American government maintains its demand made on December 6. As a basis for this demand, however, it has recourse no longer to the somewhat scanty material furnished by naked assumptions and suppositions, which it was before based on, but on the report of the Austro-Hungarian Chargé d'Affaires at Washington, which he presented the same day the American Ambassador at Vienna received the answer of Count Burian."

The "Boersen Zeitung" finds the second note decidedly milder in tone than the abstract cabled here led it to be. It puts out, however, that the note maintains its former standpoint, and adds that even if the United States is of the opinion that new evidence does not justify a further exchange of notes.

"One sees by it," continues the paper, "that the American government is solely interested in maintaining its theoretical—all too theoretical—standpoint. Washington does not seem to think of a breach in American-Austro-Hungarian relations."

It declares that President Wilson's ambition is to uphold his humanitarian ideal at all events, and the fact that he emphasizes this standpoint, especially against the Central Powers, comes from the attitude assumed by all America toward the Central Powers, and adds:

"We and our allies must reconcile ourselves to this fact—we have nothing to hope for from America; and least of all may we expect a just application of the neutrality principle from the American side."

The "Morgen Post" says: "The note, with its almost hearty concluding phrases, permits the hope that Austria-Hungary and the United States may reach an understanding over this issue in all friendliness."

The "Vossische Zeitung" says: "The most striking thing about the note is that it supports the demands made in the note of December 6 on a report which the American government received on December 15. This report was not known, hence one must wait to see how the affair works out. In the mean time it is to be noted that Washington does not defend further the assertions of the first note, and has therefore let them drop."

SAYS CHEMISTRY IS VITAL TO U. S.

Columbia Professor Asserts
Need of Research in Plans
for Defence.

That research study in pure chemistry and similar subjects is an important consideration for those interested in building up a national defence is held by Professor Marston T. Bogert, professor of chemistry in the Graduate Engineering School of Columbia University. In this belief Professor Bogert accords with Dean Frederick A. Goetze of the Graduate Engineering School, who has laid before the university plans for a large industrial engineering research laboratory where industrial problems can be solved.

Professor Bogert, in discussing the importance of research work, laid stress on the wonderful discoveries which chemists have brought to our industries and how millions of dollars have been saved from waste products alone. Much new and constructive research work is being carried on at the universities throughout the country, and especially in the already well equipped laboratories at Columbia.

The twentieth century, Professor Bogert said, "is quite certainly an age of chemistry. Germany realized that some years ago, with results that are now evident to all."

"If we would not be left far behind in the race, we must pursue a similar course, and that at once. We have yet to convince many of the nations of the earth that the form of government in which we believe, and to establish which our creators died, is the only one not only for the freedom and happiness of the individual and the development of the noblest intellectual and moral standards, but also for the growth of the country in physical strength and resourcefulness, and that in the hour of need it will not be found wanting in the vital matter of industrial efficiency and solidarity which is the cornerstone of military power."

"In the terrible war now raging the law of the survival of the fittest will be found as inescapable, immutable and inexorable as the laws of nature. It is with individuals. Our own country is beginning to awaken to the fact that civilization unarmaged by science is at a terrible disadvantage in the struggle for existence, and that this armaged cannot be done at short notice. The result is a loud and urgent call upon the universities, colleges and technical schools of the land for help."

BOARD'S REPORT HELPS DEFENCE

Congress Expected to Add
More Ships than
Daniels Asked.

YARDS ENOUGH, ASSERT CRITICS

Secretary's Proposal for Auxiliaries a Blow to Fighting Efficiency.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Dec. 25.—The publication of the unabridged recommendation of the General Board of the Navy Department, though timed to find the public preoccupied with other things than arms and warships, nevertheless created a decided stir among naval officers and all others interested in an adequate defence. The fact that the Secretary had felt called on to scale the building programme to figure which he himself sets at a third of what the naval experts consider a minimum caused a fresh outburst of the criticism against him.

Even the General Board's programme calling for fifty-seven dreadnoughts, including battle cruisers, by 1925, is declared by students of naval affairs to fall far short of the rule laid down in the board's opening paragraphs, that the board's States navy should by 1925 be "equal to that of any other nation."

Lacking the detailed information on which the board built its recommendations, however, the students agree that they are unable to judge accurately whether or not a larger navy would be needed to meet any fleet that might be sent against the United States, and they are prepared to stand on the board's plan as a fair measure of what should be done.

Plan Too Big for Congress.

In spite of the growing sentiment for really adequate preparedness, few of the Congress leaders who are in the city hope that it will be possible to force the adoption of any such plan as the board lays down, though they have distinct hopes of materially increasing the Daniels programme. Several of the leading Senators in both parties are in favor of at least one additional battle-ship a year, and a few hope that they can induce Congress to agree on three battle cruisers yearly as well.

There is also a growing belief that the personnel authorized will be nearer the General Board's recommendations of 11,000 men than Mr. Daniels's of 5,000 and 2,500 apprentices. It is felt that to fail to make the most out of the fleet now available would be the worst possible sort of economy.

The objection raised by Mr. Daniels that there are not enough shipyards in this country to undertake the building of such a fleet as the board recommends is given little weight. In the first place it is pointed out that the board gave consideration to this problem and arrived at a conclusion very different from the Secretary's. In the second place, Mr. Daniels himself has recommended that the government navy yards be equipped for the building of more ships, and no reason is seen why, if the government will attack the problem with real earnestness, this country cannot provide for an even larger building programme than the board's.

Britain's "Mothers" Speedy.

The full allowance of auxiliaries which the board recommends comes in for particular attention. The providing of ships fit to act as either repair ships or "mothers" to submarines and torpedo craft cannot be done in the few days that would elapse between the time of the outbreak of war and the time of the fleet in war formation on the high seas.

For the destroyers' auxiliaries in particular terrific speed is needed, and it is reported that the Arid and other ships of that class, which act as flagships and "mothers" to the English destroyers, are among the fastest vessels of any size in the world.

The building of such vessels is a matter of at least two years, and only the most highly trained crews can handle their delicate engines efficiently. For Mr. Daniels to cut down the programme for these ships is declared a serious blow to the fighting efficiency of the navy, though it does not decrease the armament by a single gun. Without them the heat of destroyers and submarines are tied to a very narrow radius of action, and the board's recommendations along this line particularly will be pushed with the utmost vigor.

LONDON'S SPIRIT RISES THROUGH FOG AND RAIN

Christmas Brings Homage to
Soldiers, Well and Wounded.

London, Dec. 25.—London's Christmas was spent in a depressing atmosphere of fog and rain. The city was filled with soldiers, many thousands of mud-stained veterans from the trenches having received a short holiday leave.

The last of these men on furlough arrived at the London terminals as late as midday, having been delayed by a rough passage across the Channel, which left many of them still pale and miserable when they reached London.

The great charitable institutions celebrated the day with tremendous energy. There was ample provision for homeless soldiers, both home and colonial; for the wounded for prisoners and interned aliens and for the wives and families of the men at the front.

The hospitals were bright with flowers and gifts, while visitors literally overran the already crowded wards.

Durland's the Centre of Attraction.

Last Week the interest of the Horse World was focused on
DURLAND'S

owing to the Sale of noted thoroughbreds. This week the event of interest will be the

COSTUME RIDE FOR YOUNG FOLK
on THURSDAY Morning, Dec. 30, at 10 o'clock.

Nothing like it elsewhere.

COTILLION RIDE—GAMES

Souvenir Programmes—Candy and Presents.

COME AND ENJOY WITH THE YOUNG FOLK.

WILLIAM DURLAND, President. A. C. MacBAIN, Treasurer.

5 West Sixty-sixth Street, New York City.

each patient being allowed two or three visitors at a time. Carol singers and entertainers provided amusement at the hospitals and internment camps. Special services in virtually all the churches were attended by large congregations. War was the almost invariable subject of the sermons. Archdeacon Wilberforce, preaching in St. John's, explained his praying for the German people by stating: "We are not praying that they won't be vanquished, or punished for their crimes, but rather that the German people may be emancipated from the curse of Prussianism and may shake off the fetters of cruel military despotism."

Stern Brothers

42nd and 43rd Streets, West of Fifth Avenue.

Prior to their Annual January Clearance Sales, have prepared a Very Special Offering, To-morrow, of

Women's High Class Tailored Suits

Taken from regular stock, among which will be found later models for all dress and sport occasions, made of serges, diagonals, broadcloths, gabardines and corduroys

at \$16.50, 22.50 and 29.50

BEING ABOUT ONE-HALF FORMER PRICES

Correspondingly large reductions have also been made on all High Cost Tailored Suits and Dresses, providing excellent values throughout the entire stock.

Women's Coats and Wraps Greatly Reduced

Stylish Street and Motor Coats

in tweed mixtures, chinchilla and other desirable materials,

at \$16.50 and 20.00

Women's Dressy Coats

of broadtail cloth, chiffon broadcloth, velour de laine, velour and corduroy; fur trimmed,

at \$27.50 and 35.00

Silks and Velvets

(On the Main Floor)

A MOST EXCEPTIONAL SALE OF
SHORT LENGTHS, TO-MORROW,

Including Satin Messaline, Meteors, Charmeuse, Failles, Chiffon Taffetas, Fancy Taffetas, Moires, Brocaded Crepes and Charmeuse, Velveteens, Corduroys and Chiffon Velvets,

at 45c, 78c, 95c to \$1.85

Regular Values \$1.00 to 7.50 a yard

TO-MORROW, ON THE SECOND FLOOR

Imported Black Chiffon Velvets,
Double width; superior quality; value \$5.50

at \$2.95 a yard

Dress Fabrics

(On the Main Floor)

ARRANGED IN SKIRT, SUIT
AND COAT LENGTHS

At prices that provide
very unusual economies.

Included are

Velour de Laine, Gabardines, Serges, Cheviots, Scotch Plaids and Checks, Silk and Wool

Poplins and Mixed Tailor Suitings in this season's fashionable colors and black,

At the exceptionally low prices of

68c, 85c & \$1.10 yd.

Value \$1.00 to 2.50

Very extensive preparations are being made for the

Annual January Sales

which will commence on Monday, January 3rd,
and will include the following departments:

Household and Decorative Linens,
Muslin Sheets and Pillow Cases,
Blankets and Comfortables,
Imported and American-made Underwear,
Women's Suits, Coats and Dresses,
Furs and Fur Lined Garments

At price advantages that will command the attention of our patrons and the public.
Details of these important events will be announced on Sunday, January 2nd.

Misses' and Girls' Seasonable Apparel

A Special Clearance, To-morrow, on the Third Floor, of a collection
of desirable Coats, Suits and Dresses, taken from regular stock,

AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES

Misses' Suits, at \$12.00 & 25.00

Heretofore \$25.00 and 45.00

Misses' Coats, at \$10.00 & 18.50

Heretofore \$18.75 and 29.75

Evening Dresses, \$17.50 & 20.00

Heretofore up to \$49.50

Girls' Coats, at \$6.75 to 12.00

Heretofore \$10.50 to 19.75

Girls' School Dresses, \$3.00, 4.75

Heretofore up to \$10.75

Girls' Afternoon Dresses, \$6.50, 8.75

Heretofore up to \$15.00

An Absolute Clearance of Boys' Clothing

BEGINNING MONDAY, AT DECIDED PRICE CONCESSIONS.

Boys' Norfolk Suits

at \$5.00, 7.50 and 8.50

A fine selection of neat fancy chevrons in the newest models; all with extra knickerbockers; sizes 7 to 18 years; values \$7.50 to 12.50.

Boys' Mackinaws, - - at \$5.00

Of heavy weight fancy cloth, in the prevailing shades, some with belts; sizes 6 to 18 years; regular value \$7.50.

Boys' Junior Overcoats

at \$5.00 and 6.75

A very stylish coat for the little fellow; some warm chinchillas are included in this lot; sizes 2½ to 10 years; values \$8.50 and 10.00.

Boys' Raincoats at \$3.25 & 5.00

A serviceable coat for school and wet weather, made of tan rubberized cloth, with hat to match; sizes 4 to 16 years.

Boys' Plush Hats at 95c each

A choice selection of all the wanted styles and shades; regular values up to \$2.50.

Holiday Furs---

Scarfs, Muffs,

Sets, Coats

for all

occasions.

Fur requisites

for motoring.

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Furriers

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